

REMARKS:Status

Claims 54, 56 to 86, 104, 105, 111 to 114, 121 to 124, 126 to 131, 133 to 141, and 143 to 147 are pending. Claims 62, 72, 82, 121, 131, and 141 have been amended. Claims 54, 62, 72, 82, 104, 111, 114, 121, 131 and 141 are the independent claims.

Amendments to the Specification

The specification has been amended to update the status of two of the parent applications for this case.

Section 112 Rejection

Claims 121 to 124, 126 to 131, and 133 to 147 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2. In particular, the Office Action stated that “it is not clear how a single object of” shadow snapshot or storage image “includes a hierarchy of file system objects as claimed.” Applicants have amended the independent ones of these claims to recite that the hierarchy of file system objects is *associated with* the shadow snapshot or storage image, not within the shadow snapshot or storage image.

In view of the foregoing, withdrawal of the § 112 rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim Objections

Claims 62, 72, 82, and 141 were objected to because of various informalities. Applicants have amended these claims to correct the informalities. Accordingly, withdrawal of the claim objections is respectfully requested.

Double Patenting

The pending independent claims were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1 to 6 of U.S. Patent No. 6,604,118. In response, Applicants' representative is filing herewith a Terminal Disclaimer over U.S. Patent No. 6,604,118, which is commonly owned with this application. Accordingly, withdrawal of the double patenting rejection is respectfully requested.

Closing

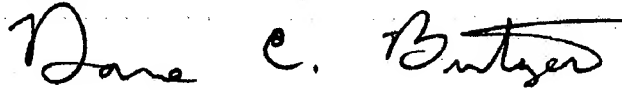
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

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Applicants' undersigned attorney can be reached at (614) 205-3241. All correspondence should continue to be directed to the address indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dane C. Butzer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dane" being the most prominent.

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